

Volusia County Permitting Guidance for New Public Water Systems

The permitting and construction of a new public water system involves three separate permits for: (1) construction/state approval of the well; (2) construction/state approval of the drinking water treatment system; and (3) state approval to operate a public drinking water system (must renew this permit annually). All three of these permits are issued by the Volusia County Health Department's Environmental Health office.

(1) A well construction permit application (DEP form 62-532.900(1)-10/2010) shall be submitted to the Volusia County Health Department (VCHD) along with a \$200.00 permit fee if the well casing is **less than 6" in outside diameter**. (Permits for 6" or larger outside diameter casings should be sent directly to the St. Johns River Water Management District for processing.) The permit application with site-specific details must be completed by a well drilling contractor licensed in the State of Florida. Once the new well is constructed, it must be disinfected and pumped to remove all residual chlorine. Then, after pumping the well to waste for at least 15 minutes, a minimum of 10 water samples are to be collected and analyzed for total chlorine residual, total coliform and E. coli bacteria. These samples must be collected on separate, but consecutive days (i.e. weekends can be skipped). Two samples can be collected each day for 5 days, provided they are collected at least 6 hours apart. Also, all wells shall be analyzed for: (1) Nitrate; (2) Nitrite; (3) Turbidity (if > 1.0 NTU, then well needs more pumping).

(2) A permit application for the construction of the water treatment system must also be submitted.

IF the water system is serving 25 or more persons for 60 or more days per year, then the system is classified as a Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) water system and an "Application for a Specific Permit to Construct PWS Components" (DEP form 62-555.900(1)) is required.). This permit shall be signed/sealed by a Florida-licensed professional engineer OR if total construction cost is \leq \$125,000, a licensed plumber or representative of a governmental unit may sign. The permit application should be submitted to the address below along with schematic drawing of system, specifications, a signed copy of the well driller's completion report, results of the raw well water chemical and bacteriological analyses and the well pump test (showing actual pump yield, both static and pumping ground water levels). The permit fee is dependent on system type/size. The lowest fee is \$690 for a "Transient Non-Community (TNC) Category V" water plant with a capacity < 0.1 mgd. Once the water treatment plant and distribution system are properly constructed, the engineer of record is required to submit a "Certification of Construction Completion and Request for Clearance to Place Permitted PWS Components into Operation" (DEP Form 62-555.900(9)) along with results of the bacterial analyses taken on two consecutive days at the point of entry into the water distribution system.

---IF the water system does not meet SDWA-PWS criteria (and does not have a publicly accessible drinking water fountain), then an "Application for a Limited Use (LU) Water System Construction" (DH form 4092B) is required to be submitted to this office along with an application fee of \$90 and 2 sets of site plans and water system construction plans.

---Upon a final inspection of the new public water system by Volusia County Health Department staff, a 'Letter of Clearance' will be issued to the engineer of record and to the owner of the project authorizing the water system to begin providing drinking water to the public.

(3) A water system 'Annual Operating Permit' (AOP) is also required to be obtained from this office prior to opening the facility to the public. The AOP permit fee is \$210 for a TNC public water system OR \$90 for a Limited Use water system. Routine monitoring including twice weekly checks of system operation and quarterly bacteriological sampling of the water system shall commence at the time facility is opened to the public.

For more information, please contact our Environmental Health-Engineering office @ **(386)736-5436** or via E-mail @ vchdengineering@flhealth.gov; or visit our office's website: <http://volusia.floridahealth.gov/programs-and-services/environmental-health/index.html>.